Sunday November 23, 2008

North Street Christian Church 220-226 West North Street Butler, Pennsylvania 16001

724-282-7700 Pastor Bob Huber Pastor Jeff Miller

North Street News

The Weekly Newsletter of North Street Christian Church www.northstreetchristianchurch.org Volume 2, Issue 47

Today's Message

Commitment is Not a Dirty Word—Is There Ever a Good Time to Say "I Do"

Pastor Bob

Today's Schedule

9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship II

Serving Today

Greeters

Worship: The Mangels

Nursery

Sunday School: Joan Cole & Kathy Twerdok

Worship: Walker Hartman, Katie Kremer, & Joan Cole

The Lord's Supper

Dawn Cratty & The Grooms

Last Week at NSCC

Worship I 111
Worship II 129
Total Attendance 240

Offering

General - \$ 5,198.25 Designated - \$ 1,306.00 Total - \$ 6,504.25

Building Fund

Building Fund Balance is

\$16,604.00

15% of General Offering is Given to Missions Each Week

Send A Card

Send a card of encouragement to Ken & Phyllis Thompson, 240 Holyoke Rd., Butler, PA 16001.

"Those who regard worthless idols forsake their own Mercy.
But I will sacrifice to You with the voice of thanksgiving; I will pay what I have vowed. Salvation is of the Lord."

Jonah 2:8,9

Today Is Commitment Sunday

LET THE CHURCH RISE; LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE—HERE AND NOW!

Commitment is Not a Dirty Word, Is There Ever A Good Time to Say "I Do"? is the title of today's message. Pastor Bob will challenge each hearer to trace his/her life through the commitments they have made! Of course the commitment to Christ and His Kingdom is the one overarching commitment that tempers all other commitments. Today we will consider the call of Christ to follow



Him, the call of the Church to live vitally as the "called out ones" spreading the message of Christ and the particular call of NSCC to love God and love people – here and now! Each hearer will then be challenged to make a commitment to our remodeling/building project, Let the Church Rise. The total cost of Phase I of the project is estimated to cost 1.5 million dollars. The project can be broken into several steps and the work will begin when we have the

first \$250,000.00 in hand. NSCC intends to remain debt free, proceeding step by step as funds are available. Let us commit to trusting together, praying together, giving together and working together!

"Commit your works to the LORD, And your thoughts will be established. " Proverbs 16:3

Sunday School Classes Begin December 6th

A GREAT PLACE TO GROW!

Ladies Class: As a Christian woman, you yearn for intimacy with God. You long to know His presence, to be satisfied in heart and soul, but you don't know how. You want to be obedient, but you need a higher motivation than simply choosing to do right. True worship is both a specific act and a lifestyle. As you learn what it means to bow your knee (the/act/of worship), you'll gain a renewed intimacy with God. And as you learn to bow your thoughts, words, attitudes, will, and even pain (the/lifestyle/of worship), you'll be drawn into God's holy and lifegiving presence- the place where God will truly satisfy your thirsty soul." This class will meet in room 103, taught by Sherry O'Donnell and Sam Tait

The International Sunday School Lesson Class: Human Commitment is the theme of the lessons for the Winter Quarter. People have varying levels of commitment to all kinds of things. This fact is very useful, because it reveals where a person's heart truly lies. "Are we committed to right things?" is a good question to ask ourselves and each other. In December we will examine, Commitment to the Messiah. Mary, Elisabeth, the Shepherds and John the Baptist will be our examples. In January and February we will consider Old Testament People of Commitment. We'll take a look at people such as the Hebrew midwives in Egypt, Rahab the Harlot, the mother of Samson, Nathan the Prophet and Isaiah when he answered God's call. This class meets in the Dining Room and is taught by Doug Emmett and Pastor Bob Huber.

<u>Christian Parenting</u> - Discipling the children God has entrusted us with is one of our primary duties as Christian parents/adoptive parents/foster parents/step-parents. There are countless models the world offers to raise children. This class will examine God's way. Taught by Pastor Jeff in the Library.

Course descriptions for the remaining classes be listed in next week's News Sheet including Jr. High to be taught in Room 102 and Sr. High at Legacy.

EVANGELISM OPPORTUNITY!

Butler County Prison Ministry

Pastor Jeff and Pressing On Ministries have some openings for men interested in evangelism at the Butler County Prison Friday evenings, from 7:30-9:30. If you are interested, plan to attend a special meeting / training for volunteers on December 6th at 9 a.m. Don't worry - we will also be doing "on the job training" - you will NOT be going alone but will be with one of our ministers as you get familiar with this ministry and what is required. If you are interested, or would like more details, please contact Pastor Jeff at 724-282-7700.

CHRISTMAS AD CAMPAIGN PROMOTES GODLESS MORALITY

The Times Are Changing!

The American Humanist Association announced a new advertising campaign this week promoting morality without religion that will feature ads on more than 200 Metrobuses in Washington D.C. "Why believe in a god?" the ad reads. "Just be good for goodness' sake." Humanist leaders say they believe it is the first ad campaign of its kind in the United States; it follows plans announced by atheists in London to place bus ads that say "There's probably no God. Now stop worrying and enjoy your life," starting in January. The American Family Association calls the ads "stupid," saying that God defines morality, and individuals defining what's good for themselves will result in a "crazy world." The dean of the Liberty University School of Law Matthew Staver, said, "It's the ultimate grinch to say there is no God at a time when millions of people around the world celebrate the birth of Christ. Certainly, they have the right to believe what they want, but this is insulting." Best-selling books by authors such as Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens have fueled interest in "the new atheism"—a more in-your-face argument against God's existence.

From Church Leaders Intelligence Report

"Do you really believe that hat you believe is really real?"



In January of 2009, NSCC will begin a 12 Week Small Group Bible Study Series presenting the TRUTH PROJECT in DVD format from Focus on the Family. Those desiring to be group leaders are required to attend the training which is now offered on Saturday mornings from 8-11 at Legacy. There are six training sessions in total. The remaining training dates are November 29 and December 6,13,20. It is not too late to be trained. Make up sessions will be offered. See Terry Hartman or Dennis Muir for more information.

32 DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS

Time to Order Your Poinsettias



If you would like to order poinsettias to beautify our Church during the Christmas services and for you to take home to beautify your homes or to bless a friend or shut-in, order forms are located in the narthex and in the Welcome Center. Please complete the form and place it in the offering by December 7th with your payment. If you have any questions or need to phone in your order, please call the Church Office at 724-282-7700.

***** A Christmas Walk-Thru & Cantata

A Christmas Walk-Thru & Cantata

First Baptist Church, Butler

First Baptist Christian School

First Baptist Church, Evans City

Presents a Gift to the Community!

December 6, 2008 at 5:30 p.m.

At First Baptist Church

221 New Castle St., Butler, PA

Featuring a live Cantata "Near to the Heart of God"

with orchestra and drama; special video created by the Youth: a Christmas craft: A Christmas Walk-

the Youth; a Christmas craft; A Christmas Walk-Thru and refreshments. There is no charge for the ★ program, but tickets are required. For tickets or ★ more information call 724-287-7241. Tickets are * also available at the NSCC Office.

VACCINATION INFORMATION TO BE SHARED

Are you completely informed to make an educated decision about vaccinating your child or even yourself? This issue affects every American of ALL ages! Please educate yourself on this very important issue! An informative seminar will be presented by Stacy Milliron on Thursday, December 4th at 6:30pm at the Legacy House! She will share her research concerning childhood and adult vaccinations, including the flu shot! Please come and invest time into educating yourself. Seating is limited. Please call 724-772-2045 to reserve a seat or if you would like additional information!



I'd like to thank everyone for the prayers, support, and concern during the difficult time of the passing of my father, Charles Ray on November 7, 2008.

Your Brother in Christ, Jon Ray

LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

Each year in November, leaders are nominated to hold the positions of Elder, Deacon, and Deaconess. The congregation is encouraged to submit names of church members to be considered for any of these positions. Just contact any of the following Elders: Bob Huber, Jeff Miller, John McIntyre, Doug Emmett, Bob Ogden, Chuck Rath, Terry Hartman, or Mark McCoy. Following the nomination process, the congregation will be asked to approve the candidates who meet Biblical qualifications and are willing to serve.

Happy Turkey

The preschoolers have learned that Thanksgiving isn't just about the turkey. It's about being thankful-thanking God for everything! We need to be thankful for all that He provides and sharing what we have with others. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good." Psalm 106:1

The Pre-Kindergarten children were asked to name some things they wanted to thank God for. As I prepared to write their responses on a large piece of paper, I could tell many were really being thoughtful before they answered. One-by-one, each child gave a reply. I wrote the following: friends, brothers and sisters, toys, Iron Man, dogs, cats, horses, good food, trips to see family and friends, friends at preschool, and moms and dads. I had one more response to write but the paper was full and no more room was left at the bottom. The only place I could squeeze in the last response was at the very top of the list. So, I wrote it in, J-E-S-U-S. We put Him right where He belongs—at the very top of our thankful list.

Sun 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:15 a.m. Worship Gathering 6:00 p.m. Worship Rehearsal Mon There are no Wednesday night activities Wed THE CHURCH OFFICE IS CLOSED Thur <u>& Fri</u> 8 a.m. - 11 a.m. Truth Project Training Sat Sun 9:00 a.m. Sunday School

November 23rd—November 30th

Forward ever, backward never", "Some wish to live within the sound of a Church or a Chapel bell; I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell.

Worship Gathering

WOULD YOU GIVING BE AFFECTED IF YOU KNEW JESUS WAS COMING BACK IN ONE YEAR?

Submitted by Curt Knotick

If your answer to this question is different than how much you are planning to give in the next year, I think it might be good to ask yourself, "Why?" Would the amount you give be different because with only one year left you would be willing to make significant, personal sacrifices since it would only be for one year? Is it that with only one year left, as the old hymn says, "the things of earth grow strangely dim in the light of his glory and grace?" Might it be that sending our financial resources on ahead seems much more appealing since we will be getting them all back in the next twelve months when we get to heaven?

I think when you shorten the timeline of life, the world and our

place in it seems to take on an entire new perspective and the real priorities of life literally explode within our consciousness. And these priorities seldom are the things that we are focused on in our daily routine. The tyranny of the urgent overrides the priority of the important.

If you only had one more year to impact the Kingdom with what God as entrusted to you, would you be living and giving differently than you are? If so, it might be good to recalibrate your priorities to reflect an eternal mission instead of a temporal one.

- E.G. Link, author

10:15 a.m.